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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231, on:

Date: Wyust 20, 2001

Docket No. 4600-0293.20

BY: SUMPENDAMENT PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AUG 2 4 200

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Fuerst, et al.

SERIAL No.: 09/769,066

FILED: January 24, 2001

FOR: HEPATITIS E VIRUS ANTIGENS AND

USES THEREFOR

EXAMINER: Unknown RECEIVED

ART UNIT: 1648 AUG 2 9 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Information Disclosure Statement Within Three Months of Application Filing or Before First Action - 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

1. Timing of Submission

This information disclosure is being filed within three months of the filing date of this application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever occurs last [37 CFR 1.97(b)]. The references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) may be material to the examination of this application; the Examiner is requested to make them of record in the application.

2. Cited Information

- - □ References marked by asterisks
- \boxtimes Copies of the following references can be found in parent application Ser. No. 07/870,985:

Cohen, Basic and Clinical Immunology pp. 703-706 (1982).

USSN: 09/769,066

3. Effect of Information Disclosure Statement (37 CFR 1.97(h)

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

4. Fee Payment

No fees are believed due. However, should the Commissioner determine that fees are due in order for this Information Disclosure Statement to be considered, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0665.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry W. Thrower

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Date: 8-20-01